

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 70-86 are currently pending in the application. Applicant has amended claims 70-72 and 76 for clarification. No new matter has been added to the prosecution of this application. For at least the reasons stated below, Applicant asserts that all claims are in condition for allowance.

1. 35 U.S.C. § 101 Rejections

Claims 70-84 and 86 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claims invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Applicant asserts that this rejection is moot in light of the above claim amendments. Applicant asserts that the claims recite a medium in the technological arts. A network-based supply chain framework is used for the method steps. The network may be the Internet, local network, and the like, as disclosed. Accordingly, Applicant requests withdrawal of the rejection.

2. 35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections

Claims 70-81 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Webber*, U.S. Patent No. 6,167,378.

Applicant opposes this rejection because *Webber* fails to disclose all the limitations of the pending claims. *Webber* fails to disclose or suggest a framework manager providing installation management in a network-based supply chain framework. *Webber* discloses a back office transaction system for order of office supplies and the like. This is a supply chain system, however, *Webber* only discloses the operations of the system for purchases. There is no discussion or suggestion of a supply chain framework manager, that is independent of users of the supply chain, that conducts installation management. Installation management means communicating with suppliers, manufacturers, vendors and the like to provide products to maintain or improve the supply chain. These products are for managing installations, not office supplies. *Webber's* discussion of installations (see col. 16, lines 20-25) is regarding installation of contract templates on a supply chain user's computer to conduct business (sales/purchases) on the system. This is not use of a

network-based supply chain for an item that is used for installation management, as claimed by Applicant.

Accordingly, *Webber* fails to disclose or suggest all the limitations of the claims. Thus, the rejection is improper and Applicant request withdrawal of the rejection.

Claims 82, 83, 84 and 86 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Webber*, U.S. Patent 6,167,378 in view of *Abgrall*, U.S. Patent 6,373,298.

Applicant opposes this rejection. Applicant asserts that *Webber* fails to disclose all of the limitations of the pending claims, as discussed above. *Abgrall* discloses a method of displaying content to a user based on a profile. See col. 3, beginning on line 3 and Figure 1. This is completely different than Applicant's invention, as claimed above. Applicant claims a method for providing installation management in a network-based supply chain framework between at least two independent business entities. Specifically, the method relates to using the network to receive information relating to a service provided by a local service provider from the service provider, receive information relating to manufacturer offerings by a manufacturer from the manufacturer; use the information provided by the service provider and manufacturer to match the service to the offerings, and to use the service and manufacturer offerings information to manage installations. *Abgrall* fails to teach receiving information from a service provider or a manufacturer as claimed by Applicant. Further *Abgrall* fails to disclose matching the service and offering (for installation management), and using the service and manufacturer offerings to manage installations. Accordingly, *Abgrall* is very different than Applicant's invention.

Additionally, the combination of *Webber* and *Abgrall* fails to disclose or suggest all of the limitations of the pending claims. The disclosure of *Abgrall* does not remedy the deficiencies of *Webber*, as discussed above. In summary, *Webber* and *Abgrall*, each alone or in combination, fails to disclose all of the limitations of Applicant's claims. Accordingly, Applicant asserts that the combination of *Webber* and *Abgrall* cannot be properly used in a 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of the pending claims. Thus, Applicant requests withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection.

Claim 85 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Webber*, U.S. Patent No. 6,167,378 in view of *Abgrall*, U.S. Patent 6,373,498 in view of *Gerace*, U.S. Patent No. 5,991,735.

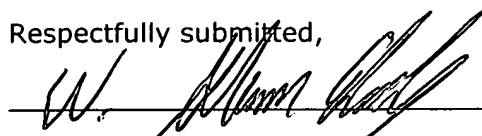
Applicant opposes this rejection. As discussed above, *Webber and Abgrall* fail to disclose all of the limitations of the pending claims. Furthermore, Applicant asserts that the modification of *Webber and Abgrall* with the teachings of *Gerace* fails to disclose or suggest all of the limitations of the pending claims. The disclosure of *Gerace* does not remedy the deficiencies of *Webber and Abgrall*. *Gerace* discloses identifying a user via the use of cookies. However, the teaching of cookies fails to provide the absent teachings of *Webber and Abgrall* discussed above.

Accordingly, Applicant asserts that the combination of *Webber*, *Abgrall* and *Gerace* fails to disclose or suggest all of the limitations of the pending claims. Thus, the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is improper, and Applicant requests withdrawal of the rejection.

7. Conclusion

Applicant submits that for at least the reasons stated above, all pending claims are allowable over the art of record and respectfully requests that a Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. In the event a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner may reach the undersigned at (612) 607-7278. If any fees are due in connection with the filing of this paper, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees including fees for any extension of time, to Deposit Account No. 50-1901 (Docket 60021-334801).

Respectfully submitted,



W. Glenn Edwards, Reg. No. 44,426
Customer No. 29838

OPPENHEIMER WOLFF & DONNELLY LLP
Plaza VII, Suite 3300
45 South Seventh Street
Minneapolis, MN 55405
Phone: (612) 607-7278
Fax: (612) 607-7100
E-mail: WEdwards@Oppenheimer.com